WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, MAY 18, 1896-TWELVE PAGES.

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IN CONGRESS TODAY

The Senate Refused to Take Up the Alabama Election Case.

MR. ALLEN CHARGES INSINCERITY

Mr. Sherman Answers Him and Gives the Party's Policy.

MATTERS IN THE HOUSE

In the Senate today the following bills were passed: Authorizing the purchase by the United States and the making free of toll of roa'is passing over the Yosemite National Park; regulating the pay of noncommissioned officers of artillery, cavalry and infantry of the army as follows: Sergeant major, \$30; regimental quartermaster, \$30; first sergeant, \$30; sergeant, \$23; corporal, \$17. A proviso to the last bill provides for a continuance of longevity pay as heretofore. Appropriating \$200,000 for a public building and site at Deadwood, S.D.

The Bond Investigation.

The resolution authorizing the employment of stenographers and clerical staff for the investigation of recent bond issues of the finance committee was reported and

Mr. Chandler (N.H.) secured the adoption of a resolution calling on the Attorney General for a statement of the condition of the government suits instituted in New York city as to the Joint Railroad Traffic Association between Chicago and the At-

The Proposed Scal Inquiry.

The resolution recently presented by Mr. Sherman for the appointment of a committee of five Scnators to go to Alaska during the recess of Congress and conduct certain inquiries as to seal life, boundary, elc., was reported back to the committee on contingent expenses and placed on the calendar without favorable or unfavorable recommendation.

Mr. Chandler objected to immediate con-

In presenting a petition from New Hamp-

The presenting a petition from New Hampshire urging government ownership of telegraph lines, Mr. Gailinger stated that the petition was addressed to "Senators Gallinger and Smith of New Hampshire." Mr. Gallinger added faceticusly that the reference to his New Hampshire colleague (Chandler) as Smith was doubtless because (Chandler) as Smith was doubtless because he had been before the public so little of

The Alabama Election.

The proposed inquiry into alleged election irregularities in Alabama came up on a request by Mr. Allen (Neb.) for unanimous consent to proceed to the immediate consideration of the subject.

Mr. Hill (N.Y.) quickly objected, saying other business had the right of way, and this proposed inquiry was not a privileged

dent, said Mr. Chandler, that the resolution could not progress as long as the New York Senator was here to object. Mr. Crandler asked unanimous consent

that a final vote be taken on the resolution Mr. Allen argued that the alleged Alaba ma irregularities was one of the highest privilege. He disclaimed, however, any desire to prosecute any inquiry which would estion the right of Mr. Morgan (Ala.) to

Mr. Faulkner (W. Va.) interjected the re mark that this disclaimer of any purpose to question the right of Mr. Morgan to his at at once took from the question any privileged character it might possess

Mr. Allen's Motion and Its Defeat. Mr. Allen responded sarcastically that he would not go so far as to term this suggestion "pettifogging," yet he knew it would not deceive the Intelligence of the Senate. Mr. Allen added that, in order to relieve the presiding officer, Vice President Stevenson, from ruling on the question of privilige, he would move to take up the resolu-

tion. This precipitated an unexpected vote.

The motion was defeated; yeas, 6; nays, Those voting in the affirmative were Chandler, Fry, Gallinger and Morrill, republicans, and Allen and Peffer, populists. On the announcement of the vote Mr. Allen, with some feeling, said this disclosed to him what he had long suspected, that there was no sincerity on the part of republican Senators, with the exception of the author of the resolution, Mr. Chandler, as to proceeding with the investigation He had felt satisfied, he said, that "when it came to the show-down" republican Senaters would join with democrats in defeatinvestigation.

He said he desired this vote to go before the country in view of the claim that the republican party stood for a fair election and an honest count.

Mr. Sherman's Reply.

Mr. Sherman answered briefly that Mr. Allen had entirely misapprehended the causes leading to the adverse vote. It was not for the present Congress, but for the one assembling March 4 next, to inquire into any questions affecting the seats of Senators or members whose terms be-gan at that time. The Senate had no jurisdiction, Mr. Sherman said, to examine into the general subject of an election. Its jurisdiction extended to an investigation as to the right of a Secator to his seat when that right had been formally challenged. It could not investigate the election of members of the House. He made this explanation, he said, in view of Mr. Allen's suggestions of insincerity.

Mr. Allen rose to state that in his judg-ment the vote was a deliberate refusal to carry out party claims of championing the

ause of fair elections. Mr. Chandler said the vote had resulted largely from the unwillingness to displace appropriation bills. If he had been con-sulted he would have advised against crowding a vote as against appropriation

Mr. Allen, sotto voce, expressed willingness to let Mr. Chandler's explanation "stand for what it is worth." With this flurry over the Senate took up the bill relating to the price of gas in the

District of Columbia. THE HOUSE. The House today entered upon a two days' debate of the immigration bills on

the calendar under a special order. Before the order was reported from the committee on rules some business was transacted by unanimous consent. Bills were passed to incorporate the An-

cient Society of Colonial Dames of America for the general distribution of condemned cannon by the Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy; to compel the attendance of witnesses before the local

To grant a site to the Charity Hospital at Beloxi, Miss.; to authorize the establishment of a life-saving station on the coast of Maryland between Fenwick Island and Ocean City; to grant an American register to the bark Villasi.

Secretary Lamont Again on Duty. Secretary Lamont has returned to Washington from a two weeks' fishing trip along St. Lawrence river, and was at the War Department today as usual.

DISTRICT IN CONGRESS GETTING A JURY

The Dollar Gas Bill Still Further Discussed in the Senate.

No. 13,481.

Mr. Kyle Quotes the Spooned Investigation Report to Sustain His Arguments-Other Local Matters.

The Senate took up the gas bill today immediately after the routine morning business had been concluded. Senator Faulkner called it up, and Senator Kyle at once resumed the floor to continue his speech, begun Saturday. Mr. Faulkner yielded, however, for some miscellaneous matters, but he encountered an obstacle when Senator Allen called up the Alabama elections resolution.

It was nearly 1:15 when the Senate got down to the consideration of the gas bill. Before Mr. Kyle went on with his speech Senator Harris took the floor to make an explanation in regard to Mr. Sands' charge that he had been denied a full hearing before the District committee. Mr. Harris said his first impression from hearing Mr. Kyle's reading of the correspondence between Mr. Sands and Senator McMillan was that Mr. Sands made such a charge He had since examined the correspondence at length and ascertained that what Mr. Sands had requested was not a hearing of arguments from the company, but a chance to make a final speech before the committee, a summing up. Mr. Harris thought that the chairman had done exactly right in denying this privilege to Mr.

Senator Gallinger drew out from Mr. Harris the fact that at the time Mr. Sands made his request the Commissioners had practically agreed to report the Sands bill

Mr. Kyle Resumes.

adversely.

Mr. Kyle then went on with his speech and explained the process of making water gas, which forms part of the product of the local company. He queted figures to show the cost of gas making in various cities, and he said he could not see how it was possible to make the claim that it costs more to make gas here than in other large cities of the east.

Mr. Kyle referred to the Spooner report of 1886, and quoted the statement that in the opinion of the committee \$1 could be fixed as the maximum price of gas in this city, and still leave a generous margin for profits. He read other paragraphs from this document to support his contention. He called special attention to the fact that Mr. Spooner had come to the conclusion that it only cost the gas company 64 cent-a thousand to make and distribute the illuminant at that time. Mr. Kyle insisted that this cost had certainly been reduced in ten years. Reading from the report he showed that under a sharp examination Mr. McIlhenny, the then president of the company, had acknowledged to the Spooner committee that the company could sell the gas for \$1 a thousand and still make 15 cents, or 17% per cent.

The Star's Noble Fight.

Mr. Kyle said that The Star had for many years been making a noble fight for question.

Mr. Chandler, author of the resolution of Referring again to the Spooner report, he finquiry, pointed out that the question had been pending here in one form or another read an account of the dividends declared up to that date by the gas company, averaging 16.8 per cent on the capital invested. Since then, Mr. Kyle said, the dividends have greatly increased, and he referred to a recent communication in The Star is which it was stated that the company is 1895 had declared a total dividend of per cent. No other local company, except rhaps the Washington and Georgetow Railroad Company, made anything like as much money. He asked the Senators present hew they could conscientiously vote against a reduction of the price to \$1 a thousand, and he ventured the assertion that they could not secure election to Con-gress from the District with a record of oting to keep up the price if the people of the District had "home rule."

Against a Five-Year Contract.

He argued that it was not right to enter into a "five-year contract," such as he said the pending bill provided. Mr. Faulkner said in reply that there was no contract contemplated by the bill. He called attention to the clause in the bill whereby Congress expressly reserves the right to alter, amend or repeal the bill, and he said that the price of gas may be changed at the next session if this bill should pass. Mr. Kyle insisted that it was practically sible to secure the repeal of a bill and he urged that Congress either ought to give dollar gas for all time or to make a higher price for only one year. He then took up the question of the purity quality of the gas furnished to the trict consumers, and he argued that the test and standard adopted in the bill would rot give the people better gas, quoting Mr. W. C. Dodge as authority for this statement.

Lots Owned by the Government. Senator Proctor today introduced a resolution directing the Attorney General to report to the Senate on the first Monday in December a list of all the lots in the District of Columbia originally owned by the United States, but which have been held for some years by private individuals, who have paid the taxes. The resolution cited the fact that there are now many such cases, and, therefore, calls upon the Attorney General for accurate information with the apparent intention of covering these cases by a blanket bill which will settle the titles. The Senate agreed to the resolution without division and the Attorney General will, therefore, make his report to the next session.

MR. HOOVER'S PENSION.

Why the House Should Pass It Over the President's Veto.

The House committee on invalid pensions eday authorized a report to be made on the bill vetoed by the President which granted a pension of \$50 to Francis E. Hoover. The report, which recommends the passage of the bill over the veto, was adopted by a vote of 11 to 2, Messrs. Erdman of Pennsylvania and McClellan of New York voting in the negative.

The report, drawn by Mr. Kirkpatrick of Kansas, states that the President's reasons | Byrnes also had formed an opinion, based for vetoing the bill are wholly untenable, being based upon the ground that the disability was not of service origin and that to grant a pension in this case would work discrimination against thousands of equaliy deserving soldiers.

It is pointed out that pensions have been granted to many distinguished generals and their widows when their disability was not clearly shown to have been of service origin, and similar pensions have also been granted privates. Such pensions have not

encountered serious opposition.
Under the circumstances, says the report, we cannot conclude that the passage of this bill is an unjust discrimination against thousands of deserving soldiers, but to refuse to grant relief in this case, in our opinon, would be an unwarranted discrimination against the private.

If the President's action in this case, continues the report, were to guide the action of Congress it would have to turn a deaf ear to many cases deserving a pension examination of the case convinces then that the soldier's disability is fairly traceaole to army service. The committee find that Mr. Hoover is in a helpless condition, entirely destitute, save for a pension of \$12, which does not pay for his support and nec-

essary attendance.

Irving Ford Now on Trial for His Life.

DEFENSE OBJECTS TO JURORS

More Talesmen Summoned and an Adjournment Taken.

ALL DELAY REFUSED

Long before the hour for opening court, 10 o'clock, a great throng of men, women and even children gathered about the entrances to the old Criminal Court room today, all anxious to obtain, if nothing more, a glimpse of Irving Ford, the self-confessed murderer of poor little Elsie Kreglo, Even the sidewalks about the city hall and the parking surrounding it were crowded by hose anxious to see the wretch. The great majority of them, however, were doomed to disappointment, for, in obedience to the instructions of Judge Cole, Marshal Wilson's orders excluded about every one except members of the bar, members of the regular panel of jurors, of course, court officials, newspaper nen and others whose presence was absolutely required. Thereo'clock, Judge Cole took his seat and directed the opening of court, not all of the chairs in the court room were occupied.

Ford Brought In. Just after Crier Joyce had formally opened the court, Criminal No. 1, Ford was brought up from the cage below by Bailiffs Springman and Brown, the former scating himself beside the murderer, who sat just back of his counsel, Messrs. Arthur Peter and R. Newton Donaldson. Ford was, of course, the one great object of every eye, and it was observed that his personal appearance had greatly improved since the day of his arraignment, last Monday. With the exception of a barely discernible musache, his face was cleanly shaven, and his head was as closely cropped as scissors and razor could well make it. He wore a sack coat of pepper and salt material, his trousers being of the same material and color. The most conspicuous feature of his attire, however, was a bright red flannel shirt. He sat with folded hands the greater part of the time, his eyes constantly wandering about the court room. At times, toe, he nervously twined his fingers in and out, and sometimes he would rest his head on his hand. On the whole he wore a sullen, listless look, as if he was weary of the proceedings and was anxious that they should be quickly terminated.

Delay Refused. Judge Cole was preceded in court by District Attorney Birney and his assistant, Mr. Laskey, and the defendant's counsel, the prisoner being brought in a moment later. Mr Elrney at once announced that he was ready to proceed, but Mr. Donaldson submitted a motion for a postpone-ment of the trial for one week. In support ment of the trial for one week. In Suppose of the motion the prisoner's counsel swore that they have had insufficient time to preen prejudiced by taking the case from the foot of the calendar and advancing it wer a large number of other cases, some

f them being homicide cases. Judge Cole, however, denied the motion, holding that no good reason had been given in support of it. The practice of the ourt, he explained, permits the district ittorney to call cases for trial as most onvenient to his office. About the ason given in the motion was that the defendant's counsel are not prepared to go on, but it is seldom that counsel in any case think that they are fully pre-pared. During the last four or five years, remarked the court, the courts here, as well as other United States courts, have so fully discussed and defined the law applying to homicide that all the questions kely to arise in the present trial have been determined. Therefore, on the whole the motion assigned no real ground for delay, and it would have to be denied. The defendant is entitled to and will receive fair trial, said the judge, but, at the same time, he will be given no advantage to which he is not clearly entitled by mat-

ter of right. Getting a Jury.

Mr. Donaldson noted an exception, and hen Judge Cole directed the jury to be impaneled. At his direction Clerk Smith alled twelve members of the regular panel nto the box, swearing them to give true inswers to such questions as the court and ounsel might ask them. They were John H. Thornton, Matthew Byrnes, George M. Fillmore, Richard W. Allnutt, John D. Nauck, George W. Peritt, colored, F. A. Linger, Frank A. Jones, Samuel L. Turner William Hollander, Daniel Shea and Edward Brooks.

Matter of Opinions.

First the members of the panel called in to the box were questioned by Judge Cole. He asked them, separately, of course, if they had formed or expressed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner. Then, when they arswered, as about every one of them did, that they had formed or expressed an opinion, the judge in-quired if they could not listen to the evidence as presented in court, and render a verdict based entirely on the evidence unnfluenced by the former or expressed opintalesmen declared that they could, and that they were not opposed to capital punishment, and had no blas one way or the other, the court declared them to be competent to serve. Then the coundefense took part in the in quiry, asking on what the opinions were based, whether they were strong opinions, and if it would not require strong evidence

o remove such opinions. The defendant's counsel also closely in terrogated the talesmen as to the alleged confessions of the prisoner, as published in the newspapers, inquiring whether, if the alleged confession should be excluded by the court, they would, nevertheless, retain

their opinions.

Mr. Thornton stated that while he had formed an opinion, he could render a ver-dict based alone on the evidence as presented in court. He was, therefore, direct ed to retain his seat in the box. like that of Mr. Thornton, on what he had read of the case.

"Have you ever said that you thought Ford should be hung?" inquired Mr. Donaldson. "You need not answer that question,

said Judge Cole. "Counsel have no right to know what the opinion of a talesman is." "Would it not require very strong evidence to remove your opinion?" next inquired Mr. Donaldson. "It would," replied Mr. Byrnes, whereupon counsel for the defense submitted

that he was incompetent.
"No," ruled the court, "that does not disqualify him, for it stands to reason that if no evidence should be presented in opposition to a juror's opinion he would

etain his opinion."

Mr. Byrnes explained, however, that he had a bias, but remarked in answer to the court's inquiry that it was not one of illfeeling against the defendant. then declared competent, whereupon the lefense challenged him for cause. Since filing the first report the committee challenge was overruled, when they noted have taken additional testimony, and the rean exception to the court's ruling.

George M. Fillmore said he had formed an opinion, and at first feared it would innce his verdict. But under the court's inquiry he explained that he thought he could render a fair and impartial verdict.

Mr. Allnutt thought his opinion would not interfere with his verdict, and he retained his seat in the box, as did Mr. Nauck and Mr. Peritt, the two last named stating that hey had fermed no opinion. Mr. Linger was challenged for cause by the defense, he having stated that he had

formed an opinion, but the challenge was Mr. Jones was excused by the court because he feared his opinion would not yield

o the evidence.

Mr. Turner retained his seat in the box on explaining that his opinion would not interfere with his verdict, as did Mr. Hollander, the defense's challenge of the latter for cause being overruled. This same thirg occurred when Mr. Shea was called. thirg occurred when Mr. Shea was called. Mr. Brooks was acclared competert, but the court excused Chas. E. Burns because of a too decided an opinion. Frank W. Dewling took a seat in the box, but Leonard C. Balley, colored, was excused by the court because he was afraid his opinion would interfere. Frank Upperman was seated despite an opinion.

Defense Challenges.

That filled the jury tox with twelve men declared by the court to be competent, when counsel for the defense exercised the first of the twenty peremptory challenges allowed them by law by excusing Mr. Hollander. Jemes L. Calhoun, called to take his place, was excused by the court because he was afraid he cculdn't disregard the alleged confessions, should they be excluded by the court. S. W. Dickman had no opinion at all, and then the defense challenged Mr. Fillmore, W. F. Holbrook took his place, when Mr. Linger was chal-lenged by the defense. Addison Bankett had no opinion, and when he took his seat in the box the defense challenged Mr.

Wm. F. Ferguson, colored, thought he Wm. F. Ferguson, colored, thought he could render a verdict uninfluenced by his opinion, when the government exercised its first challenge by excusing Mr. Byrnes. Judge Cole thought Fredk. B. Bessler's opinion was too strong to allow him to sit in the case, and George R. Cook was seated, despite his opinion, when he was at once challenged by the defense. C. W. Henselw's existent was held to be set. Henshaw's opinion was held to be not if disqualifying one, when the defense chal-lenged Mr. Allnutt. Oliver L. White, coiored, taking his place, despite an epinion. Mr. Ferguson was then challenged by the defense, and George E. Brown, colored, was excused by the court because he feared his opinion would not yield to evidence

Mr. Brown was the last one of the regu-lar panel of twenty-six talesmen to be called, and as there remained but elever men in the box, subject to twelve chal lenges by the defense and four by the gov ernment, Judge Cole directed the clerk to summen slxty extra talesmen to report in court at 10 o'clock tomerrow morning. which hour the trial was then adjourned the men in the box being cautioned by the court to read nothing of the case

THE VICE PRESIDENCY

The Pressure for Mr. Reed Growing, but His Friends Resent It.

Senator Frye Suggested as the Most Available After Him-Men From Other States Mentioned.

In those circles where the nomination of Mr. McKinley is regarded as a foregone conclusion the talk of the hour is condency. The ticket, it is held, should be as strong as it can be made. Success at the polls will bring with it great responsibility. The party, therefore, should put its best men and its best foot forward, and thereby make sure of keeping in the middle of

Speculation About Mr. Reed.

The speculation about Mr. Reed is growing. It is not acceptable to his closest friends, who do not associate him with the office. They are rather inclined to resent the suggestion. He would be shelved, they insist, in the place. The speakership is of far greater consequence-is easily, indeed, the second office in influence in the government-and he may have that again if h likes. Will the republicans draft him? The democrats have twice drafted a national figure to make the race for that office Thomas A. Hendricks had to yield both in 1876 and in 1884 to party pressure. He di so with great reluctance on both occasions and in 1884 he made loud complaint. Mr Cleveland was an unknown man, wherea he had been a party leader for a quarter of a century, and in three national conven-tions had received substantial support for the nomination for first place. yielded. If Mr. Reed is drafted, will

The suggestion is offered that both nomi nations at St. Louis be made by acclama tion. Let the whole proceeding be unprec edented, as the condition of the country is thought to be. Let the ticket represent an irresistible tide, which is to extend from the party to the country and sweep all before it at the polls. But it is recognized that this could not be done with Mr. Reed and his friends in active opposition.

Senator Frye Suggested.

The latest suggestion names Senator Frye for second place. He is now the Vice President pro tem. He is a good presiding officer, and a very popular man. He is likewise a capital stump speaker, and would be certain to give a great account of himself in the campaign. His promotion would be at no risk to the party in the Senate. Maine is reliably republican and would send a republican im. Mr. Frye's familiarity with legisla tive work and his complete mastering of parliamentary rules would make him of value to his party in the chair in the Ser ate. Then his name is short, and, joined to that of Mr. McKinley, would, it is thought, make an effective campaign cry. 'McKinley and Frye" sounds well in the ears of some of the politicians.

Available From Other States. New York is thought to have a long

available list. Gov. Morton, Warner Miller Cornelius Bliss, Col. Fred. Grant, Horace Porter are among the names on it. A New York man, so the New York papers think, would help the ticket in eastern business circles, and make it difficult for the democrats to do any campaigning on the money question.

The talk of Mr. Quay for second place finds no echo in McKinley circles. Pennsylvania Senator is not to their liking and, besides, in their opinion such a ticke would be too much "bunched" geographi-In New Jersey there is Mr. Hobart; in

Connecticut, Gen. Hawley; in Massachu-setts, ex-Gov. Long; in Vermont, Senator Proctor-all regarded as good men, and each easily of the vice presidential stature. But, open as the question is, and numer as are the names mentioned, a mere hint from Mr. Reed of his willingness to accept the nomination would instantly settle the matter. He is not likely, however, to drop such a hint.

Personal Mention. Prof. George L. Andrews, U. S. A., re-

tired, is at the Shoreham. Maj. John Egan, first artillery, is at the Ebbitt. Maj. P. F. Hanney, medical department is at 1404 16th street. Col. Thomas C. Sullivan, subsistence de

partment, has reported at the War De-partment for duty in the office of the commissary general Dr. Fred. Bogan of this city sailed for could render a fair and impartial verdict.

He was then declared qualified, the defense's challenge for cause being overruled.

Ga., are at the Ralesh.

VOTING FOR BISHOP

More Ballots Taken at Cleveland Without Result.

BOLT FROM THE LEADING CANDIDATES

Hearty Welcome of Delegates

From the South.

REPORT ON ITINERANCY

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 18.-Bishop Newman presided at today's session of the M. E. general conference. As soon as the reading of the journal was completed, a motion was made to take the ninth ballot for bishop, Dr. Buckley at once opposed this, on the ground that many of the ministers who went out of the city to preach Sunday had not returned, and the voting was made a special order for 10 o'clock.

In the meantime the routine proceedings began with a continuation of the consideration of the report of the committee on itinerancy. A brief interruption was made to introduce Dr. J. C. Morris and A. B. Perkins of Texas, fraternal delegates from the M. E. Church South. It was Dr. Morris concerning whom an unfortunate complication arose at the time of his first visit, and he has returned in order that the con-ference may redeem itself. The gentleman was shown scant courtesy on the occasion of his previous appearance before the con-ference to the conerence a day or two after it had met here

Both gentlemen were received this morning with applause.

The time until 10 o'clock was fully occupled in a discussion of the report of the committee on itinerancy, and at that hour the ninth ballot was taken. Nearly an hour was consumed in counting the vote, out immediately after the recess the tellers

entered the room.

The report of the Bible Society was be-

The result of the ballot proved to be a great surprise. The loss for McCabe was 32, Cranston 27, Buttz 62, Bowen 20, while the gain for Hamilton was 50, and for Neely 40. This bore cut the rumor of a break to Neely and Hamilton, and the result of the tenth ballot was awaited with intense interest.

The vote was taken, when Dr. Teter of lower to defen all forther ballot was a waited with intense interest.

The vote was taken, when Dr. Teter of Iowa moved to defer all further balloting for bishop until the next general conference, in 1900. No second was given, and a proach lead to be at Portland. It is said that we have torpedces, which is true, but they alone are not sufficient. Ships can approach near enough to cities to bombard them."

The report of the committee on revisals was then read. It showed no changes other than minor matters of routine that were recommended.

The tenth ballot resulted as follows: Cranston, 259; McCabe, 223; Buttz, 193; Hamilton, 189; Neely, 81; Bowen, 12. Neeessary for choice, 341. Before the tenth and last ballot of the morning was announced, rumors of a Cranston-Hamilton combination began to gain circulation. This union of the east and west seemed to be a certainty when the result was announced. The eleventh ballot was taken, and the

conference recessed until 2:39 o'clock. LI HUNG CHANG AT MOSCOW.

The Chinese Envoy to Witness the Czar's Coronation. MOSCOW, Russia, May 18.-Li Hung

Chang and suite arrived here today from St. Petersburg. The Chinese envoy was received in a most brilliant manner, and he afterward presided at a reception given in the Chinese embassy, which was profusely decorated with flags. Field Marshal Yamagata, the Japanese

envoy; the Duke of Najera, the representative of Spain, and the Crown Prince of Roumania have also arrived here. The latter was received at the railroad station by the grand dukes, grand duchesses and high officials with military honors, the band playing the national anthem. Representatives of the rural population to the number of about 600 have reached here, and are lodged in the Korch Theater, whose stage has been transformed into a vast

comprising all kinds from middle Poland to the extreme Asiatic districts of the Russian empire. Over the Maison Perlow, in which the thinese embassy is located (the building beonging to an important firm of tea importers), floats Li Hung Chang's crest, th double dragon.

The house is furnished through in Chi

dining hall. The costumes of the country

visitors present a most picturesque sight

nese style. STOPPED IN QUARANTINE.

There Had Been Yellow Jack on the Roman Prince. NEW YORK, May 18.-The captain of the Prince line steamer Roman Prince, which reached this port today from Bra-

zilian points, reports that while his vessel lay at Bahia the chief engineer, the third engineer and a colored fireman were taken ill with yellow fever. They were taken to a hospital ashore, where they speedily recovered. While the Reman Prince was at sea, on May 5, the second engineer was taken sick with yellow fever, but by the th he was able to resume his duties. On reaching port the Roman Prince was ent to Hoffman Island for disinfection and cleansing. She will not be permitted to discharge her cargo nor will any of her crew be permitted to go ashore until all danger of infection is passed.

ONLY ONE LIFE LOST. Scarching the Ruins Caused by the

Atlanta Fire.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 18 .- A close search of the ruins of the Markham House block. which was swept clean by fire last night. revealed this morning the charred remains of a human body, which proved to be that of W. T. Zachary, a negro driver, who was asleep in a carriage in Milam & Patterson's livery stable, which was one of the first buildings destroyed. So far as known, no other lives were lost

Pelitical Notes.

DENVER, Col., May 18 .- I. N. Stevens. committeeman for this state, has called a state convention of the national silver party, to meet on Thursday, June 25, in this city, to elect seventy delegates to the national convention, to be held at St.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 18.-James Gib on, who has been considered a leading free silver candidate for the democratic nomination for governor, has issued a let ter to the public, in which he declines to in which he declines to permit the use of his name

A SPANISH CRITICISM MYSTERIOUS

Lieut. Sobra', the Naval Attache Here Publishes a Newspaper Article.

Gossip in Diplomatic Circles Over His Action in Commenting on Const Defense Weakness.

Diplomats are engaging in mild gossip

over the action of Lieut. Guiterrez Sobral, naval attache of the Spanish legation, in writing an article for a Spanish publicaion in regard to the weakness of the coast defenses of the United States. Copies of the article have been received here, and have been the subject of much comment. It is even intimated by some sticklers that the Spanish lieutenant has violated diplomatic proprieties, and may possibly become persona non grata to the administration. On the other hand, it is pointed out that it is clearly within Lieut. Sobral's duties to obtain all the information he can as to the strength, condition and resources of the military and naval forces of the United mintary and naval forces of the United States. Such are the I sual duties of military attaches, and the military and naval officers of the United States attached to foreign embassies and legations are doing the same thing for the benefit of this gov ernment. It would therefore appear that Lieut, Sobrai's offending was not in collecting the information, but in forwarding it to an unofficial publication.

The Article in Question. The El Marcial, a Spanish newspaper, gives the following account of Lieutenant

Səbral's article: "The weekly Por Mar y Tierra (By Land and Sea) publishes an article by Lieuten-

ant Guiterrez Sobral, naval attache of Spain to our legation in Washington, upon the condition of the coast defenses of the United States. He considers the North American squadron reduced in strength

The ainth ballot was then announced. The whole rumber of votes cast was 500, making 334 necessary to a choice. The result on the leaders was as follows. C. C. McCabe, 238; Earl Cranston, 236; H. A. Buttz, 218; J. W. Hamilton, 159; T. B. Neely, 57; J. W. E. Lowen, 17. No choice. The result of the ballot proved to be a great surprise. The loss for McCabe was 32. Cranston 27, Buttz 62, Bowen 20, while the gain for Hamilton.

"Referring to the lack of fortifications on the Pacific coast, Lieutenant Sobral speaks of its defenseless condition by citington, who states that England could take possession of Puget sound and the coaling station built in the Straits of San Juan del

Fuca without trouble." Inasmuch as the article is really little more than a reproduction of reports and utterances of American officials have been published far and wide in the newspapers of this country, it is not regarded as at all probable that the adminis-tration will feel called on to take any of-

ficial cognizance of the matter. No Official Notification.

The attention of the State Department has not been officially directed to the case of Lieut. Sobral. Ordinarily, if the subject were deemed worthy of complaint, the in itiative would be in the shape of representations from United States Minister Taylor it Madrid to the State Department, stating the fact of these publications; but so far nothing has been said of the matter beyond some gossip in the diplomatic circle in Washington, and it is likely to end there.

NO CHANGE OF POLICY.

Gen. Lee Will Not Differ in Regard to Cuban Affairs From His Predecessor. Consul General Lee is still in Washington in daily consultation with the officials of the State Department. He will have an interview with the President tomorrow. after which it may be possible for him to fix definitely the date of his departure for his post at Havana. His family will not join him in Havana until next fall, but he will be accompanied when he leaves Washington by his son, Fitzhugh Lee, jr., who Cuba in an unofficial capacity. It may be stated on authority that the change in the personality of the consul general at Havana does not indicate any change in the policy of the administration with re

Interior Department Changes. The following changes have been made in

the Department of the Interior: General land office-Promotions: Mrs Eva S. Evans of Kansas, \$1,200 to \$1,400: John A. Barnes of eGorgia, \$300 to \$1,200; Miss Ada C. Lammond of California, \$600 to \$930.

Office of Indian affairs-Promotion: Gus tay Friebus of District of Columbia, drafts-man, \$1,500 to \$1,600. Appointment: Albert O. Von Herbulis of Virginia, draftsman,

Patent office-Resignations: John H. Mc Elroy of Illinois, third assistant examiner \$1,400; Miss Alice F. Humphrey of Con necticut, \$900. Promotion: Samuel E. Fout of Indiana, fourth to third assistant examiner. Appointment: Howard A. Coombs of Illinois, fourth assistant eexaminer Pension office-Resignation: John M. Me

Gee of Ohio, special examiner, \$1,300. Promotions: Theo. Tallmadge of Chio, clerk, \$1,200, to special examiner, \$1,300; Wm. T. Priddy of Virginia and Herman J. Schulteis of Wisconsin, \$1,000 to \$1,200; John R. Grace of Illinois and Chas. D. Shadbolt of Missouri, \$800 to \$1,000; Joseph McDonald of California, \$1,200 to \$1,400; Miss Susan (Agres of Massachusetts, \$1,000 to \$1,200 Frank D. Byington of West Virginia, clerk

\$1,400, to medical examiner, \$1,800.

Geological survey—Appointments: W.Carvel Hall of Maryland, topographic draftsman, \$1,000; Fredk. C. P. Beck of New York, map printer, \$3.40 per day. Promo tions: Van H. Manning of Missouri, topo-rapher, \$1,600 to \$1,800; Chas. E. Cooke topographer, \$1,400 to \$1,600; Robt. A. Far-n.er, topographer, \$1,400 to \$1,600; Wm. B. Corse of Virginia, topographer, \$1.300 to tentions that no man of legal attainments \$1,600; James McCormick of Massachusetts, assistant topographer, \$1,000, to draftsman, \$1,400; J. Edward Spurr of Massachusetts, assistant geologist, \$1,000 to \$1,000; Harold B. Goodrich of Massachusetts, assistant

geologist, \$300 to \$1,200. Appointments of appraisers of abandoned military reservations-Forts Goodwin and Thomas, in Arizona: Daniel H. Ming and John T. FitzGerald. Fort Lowell and Camp John T. FitzGeraid. Fort Lowell and Camp Grant, in Arizona: Henry Levin and Doug-lass Snyder. Fort McDowell, in Arizona: Terrin L. Kay and Louis W. Coggins, Camp Crittenden, in Arizona: Henry Levin and Wm. F. Powers.

James Blaine of Unalaska, Alaska, has een appointed trustee for town site entries of lands in Unalaska; compensation, \$5 per day when employed.

Jury Now Listening to the Holt

Will Case. DISTINGUISHED WITNESSES TESTIFY

Heirs-at-Law Object to Admitting

INCIDENTS OF THE DAY

the Burned Document.

The trial of the celebrated Holt will case was begun this morning in C.rcuit Court No. 1, before Justice Bradley. As is well known, this is a case to determine the genulneness of an alleged will of the late Judge Advocate General Joseph Holt. Judge Holt died in August, 1894. He was supposed to have died intestate, and on the petition of the heirs-at-law administrators were appointed.

The estate was being administered upon, some advances to the heirs having been paid, it is understood, when, the latter part of last August, the register of wills received by mail from some unknown person or persons what purported to be a will of Judge Holt. The Star has told of the sensation its receipt occasioned, and of the efforts made to discover by whom the torn and fire-scarred paper was mailed, in a dis-guised hand, and where it had remained since the date of its making, February,

The Star has also teld of the distinguished signatures to the alleged instru-ment, President Grant and Gen and Mrs. United States. He considers the North American squadron reduced in strength and numbers by reason of the fact that it has to guard four thousand miles of practically defenseless coast.

"The establishments for the construction of gurs,' he says, 'have not given altogether satisfactory results,'

"Referring to the lack of defenses of the coast, Lieutenant Sobral says: 'Boston, New York and San Francisco are the colly ports where any modern gurs are Wm. T. S. Sherman, and of the various

The distinguished array of counsel as well as the mystery surrounding the will will as the mystery surrounding the will will probably make the case one of the ment notable that has been tried in the local courts for some years past. Maj. and alra. Throckmorten accompanied Miss Throckmorten, who, in connection, with bies llynes, is named in the will of 1873 as the heir of the estate of Judge Holt. Miss liynes was also present. Mr. Washington D.Holt and William G.Sterritt, heirs-at-law, were also interested spectators. Mr. Holt Rev. W. L. Watkinson, fraternal delegate from the Pritish Wesleyan conference, who said a few words of farewell.

Bishop Newman's response was a gem and called forth most prolonged applause. The report of the committee on revisals was then read. It showed no changes of the property of the committee on changes of the control of the committee on changes of the last control of the last The estate is valued at between \$150,000

and \$200,000.

Securing a Jury. Upon the suggestion of Mr. Worthington, the members of the jury panel were first examined as to their competency for service, being questioned in turn as to whether they were acquainted with any of the parties to the litigation and as to whether they had formed an opinion as to the genuine-

ness of the will in dispute.

James C. Poston of Louisville, Ky., who is associated with counsel for the heirs-at-law, was introduced to the court by Mr. Wilson and was admitted to practi-A list of twenty names selected from the panel was examined by counsel, and, after exercising the right of challenge, twelve men took their seats in the jury box and were sworn, as follows: James M. Trader, Fred Robey, C. W. Cooksey, Joseph H. Minnich, H. F. Steele, Robt. E. Henalt, Samuel B. Jackson, Wm. Flemming, Abner W. B. Jackson, Wm. Flemming, Abner W. Dangerfield, Richard C. Carr, George F.

Frederick and G. A. Bentley, Distinguished Signatures.

The first witness was Senator Sherman of Ohio, who was examined by Mr. But-

The witness was shown the disputed will and testified that the signature to the will of his brother, General Sherman, was genuine, as was also that of Mrs. Sherman, The next witness was Colonel Fred. D. Grant of New York city, eldest son of the late President Grant. In answer to questions he spoke of his opportunities for becoming familiar with the handwriting of his father, having been associated with him for a number of years, and with him when he wrote his book. When asked about the purported signature of his father to the Holt will Colonel Grant testified that it looked like his signature, and that

it had all the characteristics. He said that he was very sure his father wrote The next witness called was Judge Henry . Burnett of New York. He said that during the last year of the

war he knew Judge Holt very well. summoned to Washington by the War Department in '63 and was for a time emloyed in the same office with Judge Holt, In this way he became very familiar with Judge Holt's handwriting. During the preparation for the trial of the murderers President Lincoln he had an office in the War Department and was in almost daily communication with Judge Holt Judge Burnett was then handed the burned paper which purports to be the last

will and testament of Judge Holt and asked

whether he could recognize the handwrit-Mr. Worthington, for the heirs-at-law, objected that there was not sufficient evidence before the jury to show that the paper was the instrument on which the issues of this case were drawn. The point was not sustained, however, and the quse-

tion was allowed to go. "In my opinion," said the witness, "the oody of this paper is in the handwriting of the late Judge Holt, as is also the signature at the end of the decement."

The witness then produced a number of letters, which he had received from Judge Holt at various times. The contents were

not made public. Legal Ability.

Mr. Worthington asked the witness whether he knew that Judge Holt was a lawver or not.

Mr. Lee objected, but Mr. Worthington

pressed the question, saying that it was a matter that would have to be settled sooner or laterfl as it was one of their conwould ever have written such a paper. He said that were the matter to be left only to Judge Bradley instead of to a jury, it would not be necessary to introduce any evidence at all. Any lawyer would say without hesitation that the document in question could never have been written by any man of even moderate legal ability. In answer to a question the witness said that his association with Judge Holt led him to believe that the latter was not a well-grounded lawyer. He was well in-formed as to the underlying principles of law, but on technical points, such as the rules of evidence, &c., he was frequently very much at sea. In his opinion, Judge Holt was an eloquent jury lawyer rather than a careful and erudite student of the law.

Several of the letters which the witness

Persons leaving the city for any

THE STAR BY MAIL.

period can have The Star mailed to

as well as the new one.